

2015R- 402  
**RESOLUTION**  
**of the**  
**CITY OF**  
**MINNEAPOLIS**

15-00954

By Gordon

**Supporting the Redevelopment of the University Avenue Innovation District.**

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis has supported the development and completion of the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit project, known as the Green Line; and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis is involved in an ongoing partnership with the City of St. Paul on the completion of the Green Line, and on planning for development along the corridor; and

Whereas, the Prospect Park light rail station area represents one of the biggest opportunities for growth along the Green Line in Minneapolis, including growth in population, employment, and tax base; and

Whereas, the Southeast Minneapolis Industrial (SEMI) area adjacent to the Prospect Park station has been guided by the City for redevelopment as a job-intensive innovation district focusing on bioscience and related industries, capitalizing on its close proximity to the University of Minnesota; and

Whereas, this area also stands to benefit from MnDRIVE, an initiative to strengthen Minnesota's discovery, research, and innovation economy; and

Whereas, the City Council adopted the *Stadium Village University Avenue Station Area Plan* in 2012, supporting the redevelopment of the immediate Prospect Park station area with high density mixed use, and the adjacent SEMI area with office and light industrial development; and

Whereas, the University of Minnesota has a strategic vision to work with its surrounding communities to leverage its capacity as a major research university to spur innovative projects and build stronger, safer and more vibrant communities around its edges; and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis is working in partnership with the City of St. Paul in this area to address shared cross-border issues and opportunities; and

Whereas, the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority's Glendale Townhomes area is a highly valued asset within the district that currently provides an innovative, effective model of stable, affordable housing within a safe, supportive community comprised primarily of refugee, immigrant and low-income families; and

Whereas, a number of community partners have formed the Prospect North Partnership, which is working together to support redevelopment in the context of a sustainable and innovative district; and

Whereas, the Prospect North Partnership has identified that designating an innovation district would assist in establishing an identity and standards for the redevelopment of the area, and CPED staff have agreed with this recommendation as a means to forwarding City goals for economic development;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the area defined by the attached map be designated as the University Avenue Innovation District. An innovation district is an economic development tool that utilizes partnerships with higher education institutions, businesses, and government to fuel job growth and redevelopment in targeted locations, based on the premise that collaboration and productivity result from proximity, and therefore job creation and innovation can be fostered through the intentional clustering of businesses, institutions, ideas and people. This designation can be used for the purposes of planning, fundraising, and marketing – and potentially for innovative pilot projects and district systems.

Be It Further Resolved that the City Council supports redevelopment of the University Avenue Innovation District area as a priority for the City of Minneapolis, by directing staff and resources to:

1. Direct CPED staff to continue to participate in the planning, organizing, strategizing for, and implementing the area's redevelopment.
2. Consider investments at city standard level in basic infrastructure through the capital improvement plan, with the understanding that this may leverage other sources of funding for more innovative elements of public realm and district systems.
3. Consider requests from Prospect North Partnership for technical analysis, to review or explore issues in-depth, on a case by case basis in relation to staff workloads and financial commitments. Any staff resources or financial commitments that are more than incidental shall be brought to the City Council for consideration.
4. Consider funding for redevelopment opportunities including housing, business development, infrastructure, and greenspace, particularly those that provide or support affordable housing and/or job creation.
5. Communicate about the opportunities in this area to a broader audience, to attract input, support, and potentially investment.
6. Consider changes to city policies and practices to allow for experimentation and innovation consistent with City goals and the expressed priorities of the district. Any specific regulatory or policy changes shall be brought to the City Council for consideration.
7. Work with the City of Saint Paul on shared issues including, but not limited to, infrastructure connectivity, formation of a cohesive district identity and brand, and alignment of investments in economic development.

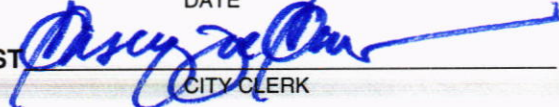


Be It Further Resolved that this resolution does not presuppose any redevelopment in the Glendale Townhomes area and any redevelopment or improvement plan for that area will follow a separate, open, transparent public process that will include participation of the neighborhood association and Glendale residents.

Certified as an official action of the City Council: 

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE (X INDICATES VOTE)													
COUNCIL MEMBER	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	VOTE TO OVERRIDE	VOTE TO SUSTAIN	COUNCIL MEMBER	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	VOTE TO OVERRIDE	VOTE TO SUSTAIN
Reich	X						Glidden	X					
Gordon	X						Cano	X					
Frey	X						Bender	X					
B Johnson	X						Quincy	X					
Yang	X						A Johnson	X					
Warsame	X						Palmisano	X					
Goodman	X												

ADOPTED OCT 09 2015  
DATE

ATTEST   
CITY CLERK

☒ APPROVED ☐ NOT APPROVED ☐ VETOED

 RECEIVED OCT 14 2015  
MAYOR HODGES DATE